

REMARKS

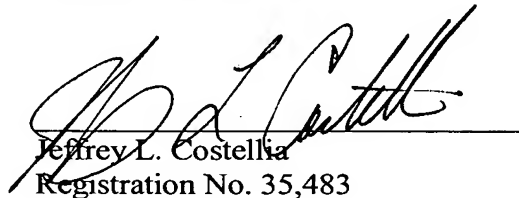
The Office Action of October 19, 2005 was received and carefully reviewed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the currently pending rejections are requested for the reasons advanced in detail below.

Claims 1-44 and 50-69 are currently pending. In the Office Action, claims 1-44 and 50-69 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-102 of U.S. Patent No. 6,638,781 (Hirakata et al.).

In response to the above rejections, Applicants wish to submit a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) to overcome these rejections. The Terminal Disclaimer will be forthcoming.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn by the Examiner, that claims 1-44 and 50-69 be allowed and that the application be passed to issue. If a conference would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,


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